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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

27386 7590 01/28/2010

GERSTENZANG, WILLIAM C.
NORRIS MCLAUGHLIN & MARCUS, PA
875 THIRD AVE., 8TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10022

EXAMINER

BERNSITTEYN, MICHAEL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1796

DATE MAILED: 01/28/2010

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/539,865	11/30/2005	Marc Husemann	101769-321-WCG	6679

TITLE OF INVENTION: BIMODAL ACRYLATE PRESSURE-SENSITIVE ADHESIVE COMPOUNDS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	04/28/2010

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

27386 7590 01/28/2010

GERSTENZANG, WILLIAM C.
 NORRIS MCLAUGHLIN & MARCUS, PA
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 NEW YORK, NY 10022

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/539,865 11/30/2005

Marc Husemann

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TITLE OF INVENTION: BIMODAL ACRYLATE PRESSURE-SENSITIVE ADHESIVE COMPOUNDS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	04/28/2010

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
BERNSHTEYN, MICHAEL	1796	525-191000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a **Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2
 3

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____
 Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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GERSTENZANG, WILLIAM C. NORRIS MCLAUGHLIN & MARCUS, PA 875 THIRD AVE., 8TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10022			BERNSHITEYN, MICHAEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1796	

DATE MAILED: 01/28/2010

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 569 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 569 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

10/539,865

Examiner

MICHAEL M. BERNSTEIN

Applicant(s)

HUSEMANN ET AL.

Art Unit

1796

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 01/19/2010.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/Michael M. Bernstein/
Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/David Wu/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action follows a response filed on January 19, 2010. No claims have been amended or added; claims 9-13 have been cancelled.
2. In view of amendment (s) and remarks the rejection of claims 1,3, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brahm et al. (U. S. Patent 6,001,931), the rejection of claims 2, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brahm et al. (U. S. Patent 6,001,931) as applied to claims 1,3, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 11 above and further in view of Williams et al. (U. S. Patent 4,810,523), and the rejection of claims 5, 8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brahm et al. (U. S. Patent 6,001,931) as applied to claims 1,3, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 11 above and further in view of Baus et al. (U. S. Patent 6,242,518) have been withdrawn.
3. Claims 1-8 are now pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-8 are allowed.
5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the present claims are allowable over the closest references: Brahm et al. (U. S. Patent 6,001,931) and Williams et al. (U. S. Patent 4,810,523).

Brahm discloses that a preparation of the polyacrylate component b) which is essential is preferably carried out by a multistage, preferably a two-stage process in a reaction vessel. Polymerization is carried out in the individual stages by the well-known injection process. When two process stages are employed, the polymers obtained have

a bimodal molecular weight distribution. The average molecular weights of the copolymers synthesized in the individual stages can be adjusted by the choice of polymerization temperature, by the initiator/monomer concentration and by substances which serve as radical transferring agents. Preferably only the polymerization temperature and/or the initiator/monomer concentration are varied. It is particularly preferred to vary both parameters at the same time. In the first stage, a comonomer mixture and an initiator mixture are added to an organic solvent (col. 3, line 54 through col. 4, line 2).

The polyacrylate resins of component b), which is an essential component have molecular weights (M_n), determined by gel permeation chromatography using polystyrene as standard) of 1000 to 100,000, preferably 1000 to 30,000. An at least bimodal molecular weight distribution is essential. The gel permeation chromatogram has at least two maximums whose molar masses (determined with reference to a scale based on polystyrene standard) preferably differ from one another by a factor of at least 1.3, more preferably at least 1.5 (col. 3, lines 22-32).

Brahm exemplifies that the acrylate resin has a maximum of 12,000 and a shoulder at 25,000 while the average molecular weight (M_n) of the polyacrylate is 3,400 (Example 1), or the acrylate resin has a maximum of 12,000 and another sub-maximum at 27,000 while the average molecular weight (M_n) of the polyacrylate is 3,600 (Example 2). Brahm discloses that the concentration of initiator or initiator mixture may be the same or different in the two stages of the process. For the preparation of the copolymer having a higher average molecular weight it is preferred to use Ness initiator, most

preferably less than half the quantity used for the preparation of the copolymer having a lower average molecular weight (col. 4, lines 42-47).

Brahm discloses that additional auxiliary agents serving as transferring agents may be used for regulating the molecular weight, for example, mercaptan compositions (col. 4, lines 48-50).

Williams discloses a production of acrylate-based pressure-sensitive adhesives by polymerization which is initiated via exposure of monomers to ionizing radiation. The invention further relates to the production of such adhesives in a low-solvent or solventless form suitable for hot melt application (col. 1, lines 9-15). The polymerization reaction may be carried out at a first dose rate for a period of time and then the dose rate changed for the remainder of the polymerization in order to produce an essentially bimodal molecular weight distribution. The polyacrylate solution is coated onto a substrate, e.g., a backing or webbing such as tape or label stock. The volatile solvent is then evaporated, thereby leaving a nearly solvent-free layer of adhesive. The practical manufacture of pressure-sensitive adhesive products such as tapes, labels and others also often requires the use of prime and/or release coatings or inclusion of a release coated interlayer(col. 2, lines 54-61).

However, both references Brahm et al. and Williams et al. do not disclose or fairly suggest a process for preparing a polyacrylate having at least bimodal molecular weight distribution wherein the polymerization being carried out in a first phase of the at least two-phase polymerization, in the presence of a first initiator concentration, to give a first polymer having a first molecular weight and, in particular, before the monomer

mixture has been completely consumed by the polymerization, a further phase or phases of polymerization is or are started, by the addition at least once of a regulator, and in this further phase or further phases a second polymer or polymers is or are synthesized, said second polymer having a second molecular weight which second molecular weight is lower than said first molecular weight, as per instant claim 1.

6. As of the date of this Notice of Allowability, the Examiner has not located or identified any reference that can be used singularly or in combination with another reference including Brahm et al. and Williams et al. to render the present invention anticipated or obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

7. In the light of the above discussion, it is evident as to why the present claims are patentable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delay, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reason for Allowance".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL M. BERNSHTEYN whose telephone number is (571)272-2411. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 8-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu can be reached on 571-272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael M. Bernshteyn/
Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/M. M. B./
Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/David Wu/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796